

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.

The invention relates to a method of examining the authenticity of a document provided with an optico-diffractively effective element or hologram by
5 subjecting the hologram to capacitive coupling of a voltage and deriving a signal representative of the voltage for comparison with a reference signal representative of a hologram of an authentic document.

The method may be improved by providing, between individual segments
10 of the hologram, additional security indicia providing a signal in response to being irradiated by electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined frequency.